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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

**TO:** Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.  
Examiner  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

**FROM:** Lawrence S. Perry

**RE:** U.S. Application No. 09/645,321  
Our Ref. 00005.001183

**FAX NO.:** 703-746-5263

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November 11, 2003

VIA FACSIMILE

Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.  
Examiner, Group Art Unit 1652  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/645,321  
Our Docket No. 00005.001183

Dear Examiner Rao:

Thank you for your telephone call of today. I have now pulled the above-referenced file and reviewed the August 18, 2003 Amendment. I understand your complaint completely.

I very much apologize for the statement characterizing the rejection as "absurd." As I told you, I intended to speak to the associate who drafted the paper for my signature. As it turns out, that associate is no longer with this firm.

I am sorry for the embarrassment this has caused us both. If you wish to make this paper of record, please do so. If you wish me to file a Substitute Amendment, please let me know.

I have consistently enjoyed working closely with you in the past and I do not intend for our beneficial relationship to cease.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence S. Perry

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